AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following claim listing is meant to replace all previous claim listings.

1. (Previously Presented): A process for producing branched fatty acids, comprising:

a. introducing a recombinant nucleic acid coding for a cyclopropane fatty acid synthase into a plant cell, a plant tissue or a seed of a plant;

b. regenerating a transgenic plant from the plant cell, the plant tissue or the seed of the plant wherein said transgenic plant produces branched fatty acids; and

c. recovering said branched fatty acids from said transgenic plant.

2. (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, further comprising the step of extracting the branched fatty acids.

Claims 3-11 (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended): ~~A recombinant nucleic acid comprising in the following order:~~ —The process according to Claim 1, wherein said recombinant nucleic acid further comprises ~~a.~~ a plant expressible promoter selected from the group consisting of a nopaline synthase promoter (nos), an octopine synthase promoter (ocp), a mannopine promoter, an agropine promoter, a napine promoter and an acyl carrier protein promoter (ACP)~~;~~
~~b. a nucleic acid coding for a cyclopropane fatty acid synthase; and~~
~~c. a 3' transcription termination sequence~~.

13. (Currently Amended): The nucleic acid process according to Claim 12, wherein the promoter expresses the nucleic acid in a seed of a plant.

Claims 14 – 22. (Cancelled).

23. (Currently Amended): A process for preparing branched fatty acids from a transgenic plant whose cells contain a recombinant nucleic acid ~~according to Claim 12, comprising:~~ comprising in the following order:

a. a plant expressible promoter selected from the group consisting of a nopaline synthase promoter (nos), an octopine synthase promoter (ocp), a mannopine promoter, an agropine promoter, a napine promoter and an acyl carrier protein promoter (ACP);

b. a nucleic acid coding for a cyclopropane fatty acid synthase; and

c. a 3' transcription termination sequence, comprising:

culturing said transgenic plant in a field;

recovering the seeds from said transgenic plant; and

extracting the branched fatty acids from these seeds.

24 - 29 (Cancelled).

30. (Currently Amended): The ~~plant cell~~ process according to Claim 1 or Claim 23 ~~18~~, wherein said ~~plant cell~~ transgenic plant is colza, sunflower, peanut, soya, flax or maize.

31. (Previously Presented): A process for producing branched fatty acids, comprising:

introducing a recombinant nucleic acid coding for a cyclopropane fatty acid synthase into a plant cell;

culturing said plant cell in a medium suitable for growth; and

extracting and purifying the branched fatty acids from said plant cell or from the supernatant of said medium.

Claims 32 -36 (Cancelled)

37. (Previously Presented): A process for producing branched fatty acids, comprising:

a. introducing a recombinant nucleic acid coding for a cyclopropane fatty acid synthase into a tobacco cell, a tobacco tissue or a tobacco seed;

b. regenerating a transgenic plant from the tobacco cell, the tobacco tissue or the tobacco seed, wherein said transgenic plant produces branched fatty acids; and

c. recovering said branched fatty acids from said transgenic plant.